

Great Leaders Make Adjustments at the Drop of a Pin! (Some Insights and Analogies)

So often when I played sports, our set plays would break-down and fall apart at the drop of a pin. Whenever that happened we only had a few seconds at the most to make adjustments so that we'd score anyway. The same thing almost always happens during a Trial.

Likewise, Moses' plan, after the Lord told him to go get His people out of bondage, was to confront Pharaoh with the directive and be off to the "Promised" land; "Piece of cake", right! Problem was, however, that Pharaoh wouldn't budge in the beginning. So Moses had to "re-group" and come up with a whole new plan so the mission would succeed anyway. And, with God's help, he did. And the new strategy worked brilliantly!

How often in business and practice do we have to do the exact same thing (cases take an unexpected twist, clients decide to take ill-advised actions that complicate everything, etc.).

The same holds true in the Public Interest sector for law and government. The two disciplines can make for some very "stressed alliances". Government funding for Public Interest programs & projects, for example, generally doesn't allow for quick adjustments, or for the ebs & flows of an imperfect clientele. They want their programs carried out exactly as they're set out on paper, whether doing so makes any sense or not. Their focus is generally on the numbers. Performance, as it relates to changing lives & policies, is secondary to them.

That's why I don't pursue government funding with the same fervor I do private initiatives. Plus I simply don't like being told what to do by people who are bent on living out an idealistic existence in an imperfect world. Such people have no conception of what it really takes to make a great initiative work at the grass-roots level. I'd much rather seek-out unrestricted funds, develop our own areas of expertise, and let the market determine whether we get it right, regardless of the sacrifices!

Most people simply can't deal with this level of sacrifice and commitment, and that's understandable. But I want the ones who can on my team! I've seen you go through a lot of things over the last few years, and gotten to know you as well, and I really believe you're a "dream" partner!

Have an amazing day! :-)

- Jack

The story below is almost comical & scandalous! Look at all the adjustments Moses had to make, and make quickly, in order to deal with the spoiled brat Pharaoh and get his people out of Egypt.

Exodus 8:20-32 (MSG)

God said to Moses, "Get up early in the morning and confront Pharaoh as he goes down to the water. Tell him, ' God 's Message: Release my people so they can worship me. If you don't release my people, I'll release swarms of flies on you, your servants, your people, and your

homes. The houses of the Egyptians and even the ground under their feet will be thick with flies. But when it happens, I'll set Goshen where my people live aside as a sanctuary—no flies in Goshen. That will show you that I am God in this land. I'll make a sharp distinction between your people and mine. This sign will occur tomorrow.” And God did just that. Thick swarms of flies in Pharaoh's palace and the houses of his servants. All over Egypt, the country ruined by flies. Pharaoh called in Moses and Aaron and said, “Go ahead. Sacrifice to your God—but do it here in this country.” Moses said, “That would not be wise. What we sacrifice to our God would give great offense to Egyptians. If we openly sacrifice what is so deeply offensive to Egyptians, they'll kill us. Let us go three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to our God , just as he instructed us.” Pharaoh said, “All right. I'll release you to go and sacrifice to your God in the wilderness. Only don't go too far. Now pray for me.” Moses said, “As soon as I leave here, I will pray to God that tomorrow the flies will leave Pharaoh, his servants, and his people. But don't play games with us and change your mind about releasing us to sacrifice to God .” Moses left Pharaoh and prayed to God . God did what Moses asked. He got rid of the flies from Pharaoh and his servants and his people. There wasn't a fly left. But Pharaoh became stubborn once again and wouldn't release the people.